

FOUNDED 1716
North Haven
Congregational Church
United Church of Christ



Hope

North Haven, Connecticut
An Open & Affirming Congregation

**NORTH HAVEN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Sunday, November 27, 2022

9:30 a.m.

First Sunday of Advent

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: *Veni Emmanuel*

Mangham David Lehr

CHORAL INTROIT: *I Rejoiced When I Heard Them Say*) Psalm 22
Music by Bernadette Farrell, 1993

***OPENING HYMN:** “Come Thou Long Expected Jesus” V2

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: To stand watch – over a sick child or a rising loaf,

PEOPLE: at the gate of a factory, upon the ramparts of a walled city,

Leader: or on the top of a craggy mountain –

PEOPLE: to stand watch calls for alert senses and sensitivities.

Leader: Standing watch demands an awareness of surroundings, for even when it seems as though there is nothing out there to watch for, you must be ready for anything.

PEOPLE: Standing watch builds anticipation.

Leader: In this season we seek to watch with eagerness for the promised but always surprising arrival of Christ.

PEOPLE: God comes to be with us, ready or not.

ALL: May our worship this morning and in days ahead be times of looking forward with perceptive and receptive watchfulness.**

***LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF PEACE ~unison**

God of hope, who brought love into this world,
be the love that dwells between us.

God of hope, who brought peace into this world,
be the peace that dwells between us.

God of hope, who brought joy into this world,
be the joy that dwells between us.

God of hope, the rock we stand upon,
be the centre, the focus of our lives

always, and particularly this Advent time. ## Amen.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and every shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION:~unison

Compassionate God, greet us with your grace this day, for we need you. We cannot save ourselves. Though we may be frantic with activity, our efforts do not yield peace, peace as you can give. Today we would be quiet enough to hear your voice. Today we would be still enough to feel your touch. Help us to find that place where we can receive as well as give, wait as well as act, and listen as well as speak. Our whole world needs your peace. Let us come before you and learn your ways, laying down our weapons and feeding the hungry. Come to us now, through Jesus the Christ.** Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*trespasses*)

Choral Amen

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Sam Gott, Aidan Nottingham, Aaron Weiss

Scripture: Romans 15:12-13 p 1306

and Isaiah says: "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope." May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Lighting the Candle of **Hope**Prayer-*unison*

O God, by whose word all things are sanctified, pour forth Your blessing upon this wreath, and grant that we who use it may prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ and may receive from You abundant graces. You, O God, will live and reign forever. Amen.

Sung Response: "A Candle is Burning"

V6

A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright,
A candle of hope in December's dark night.
While angels sing blessing from heaven's starry sky,
Our hearts we prepare now for Jesus is nigh.
And none shall be afraid.

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Isaiah 2:1-5

Pg 621

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

HERE ENDS THE READING. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

***HYMN:** "O Day of God, Draw Nigh"

V689

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matthew 24:36-44 Pg 1173

"But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

HERE ENDS THE READING. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

ANTHEM: *O Day of Peace*

Tune: Candler from: The Hesperian Harp, 1847

Arranged by Hal Hopson

Sung by The Chancel Choir

Text by Carl P. Daw (b. 1944)

1 O day of peace that dimly shines
through all our hopes and prayers and dreams,
guide us to justice, truth, and love,
delivered from our selfish schemes.

May swords of hate fall from our hands,
our hearts from envy find release,
till by God's grace our warring world
shall see Christ's promised reign of peace.

2 Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb,
nor shall the fierce devour the small.

As beasts and cattle calmly graze,
a little child shall lead them all.

Then enemies shall learn to love,
all creatures find their true accord.

The hope of peace shall be fulfilled,
for all the earth shall know the Lord.

SERMON: “Be Ready”

Scott Morrow

PASTORAL CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PASTORAL PRAYER

Choral Response

THE OFFERTORY: *Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates* David N. Johnson

*Doxology

Tune: Old Hundredth

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise God all creatures here below

Praise God above ye heavenly hosts

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

GREETING OF PEACE ~*unison*

May the peace of God in Jesus Christ be with you always!

***CLOSING HYMN: “People Look East”**

V9

*THE BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: *Wachet Auf*

Martha Sobaj

*Those who are able, please stand.

**** Reprinted by permission of the publisher from *Touch Holiness*, ed. Ruth C. Duck and Maren C. Tirabassi. Copyright © 2012 The Pilgrim Press.**

**## Adapted from Faith and Worship;
http://www.faithandworship.com/prayers_Advent.html;
retrieved 12/16/18**

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license #A-719615.

Deacon is Nancy Mahoney. **Greeter** is Mary Johnston. **Guest Organist** is Gail DeBoer.

Fellowship Hour is hosted by Bernie & Elfie Hummel.

Today's flowers are given by Doris Ferner in celebration of the 20th anniversary of The Reverend Gary Ferner's Ordination.

In Our Prayers This Week are: Ed Collett, Mabel Peterson, Stephen Simonson, Linda Shannon, Marcia Foulds, Marlene Bellonio, Shirley Ryan, Joyce Bellonio, and Ellen Robert.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Anna Woodruff 11/27, Cheryl Hall 11/27, Sharman Tait 11/30, Charles Woodruff 11/30, Doris Ferner 12/01.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Cindy & Mark Luedee 11/28.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas potluck dinner: Women's Fellowship is having a Christmas potluck dinner at 6 pm on December 5th. Please email Cheryl Bogert ca.bogert48@gmail.com to let her know what you will bring by December 1st. We will need main dishes, salads, and desserts. We will also have our "tacky grab bag," so bring your gift!

Angel Tree: Covenant to Care will be providing gifts for children this year. After 2 years of giving gift cards because of the pandemic, we will give real gifts. The Angel Tree with the children's names will be at coffee hour **TODAY** Sunday, November 27th. All gifts will need to be in the church office by December 15th. If you would like to participate but will not be in church to select a child, please call the church office.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

Sunday	11/27	9:30 a.m.	WORSHIP– (In-Person & Live Stream)
Monday	11/28	6:30 p.m.	New Haven Camera Club (CH)
Tuesday	11/29	9:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 1:00 3:30 6:00	Al-Anon (K) PLP (Library) Danish Sisterhood (K) United Girls Choir (CH, DBL, S) BIBLE STUDY (Zoom)
Wednesday	11/30	9:30 a.m. 10:00 6:00 p.m. 7:00 7:00	CLEANING (Sang) FOOD PANTRY OPEN Girl Scout Troop 60071 (K) ORGANIST SEARCH (Zoom) PURL & PRAISE (L)
Thursday	12/1	5:15 p.m. 6:00 6:30 7:00	Girl Scout Troop 60151 (K) Organist Audition (Sanct.) Mothers of Twins (CH) CHANCEL CHOIR
Friday	12/2	10:00 a.m.	FOOD PANTRY OPEN
Saturday	12/3	7:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m.	MENS FELLOWSHIP (CH) Birthday Party (CH)
Sunday	12/4	9:30 a.m.	WORSHIP– (In-Person & Live Stream)

*Small print indicates non-Church function
Bold print starts new day.

MISSION

Our church's mission is to bind ourselves with Jesus Christ in:

- Worship together;
- Nurture of Christian discipleship; and
- Compassionate service to our community and beyond.

VISION

We are a hub for the larger community as a church of action:

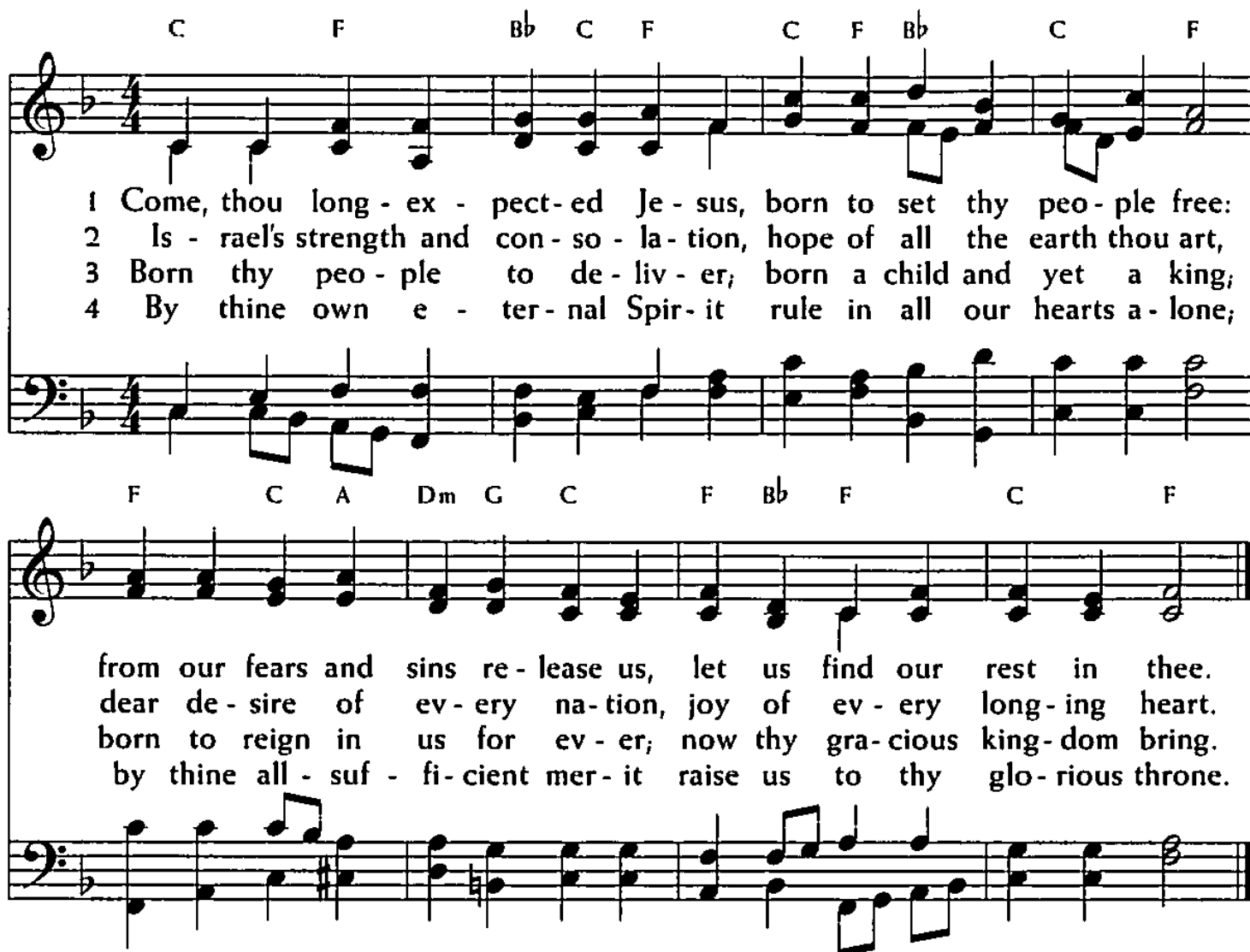
- Conducting regular, robust worship in a responsible and relevant way in an ever changing and challenging world;
- Welcoming all people from different and diverse backgrounds to become a community of disciples together; and
- Involved in purposeful action and activities through the structure of self-directed Mission Teams.

VALUES

We:

- Pray together, encourage each other, and trust one another;
- Take personal responsibility for fellowship and our community; and
- Celebrate with honored traditions.

C F B \flat C F C F B \flat C F




1 Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free:
 2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
 3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er; born a child and yet a king;
 4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

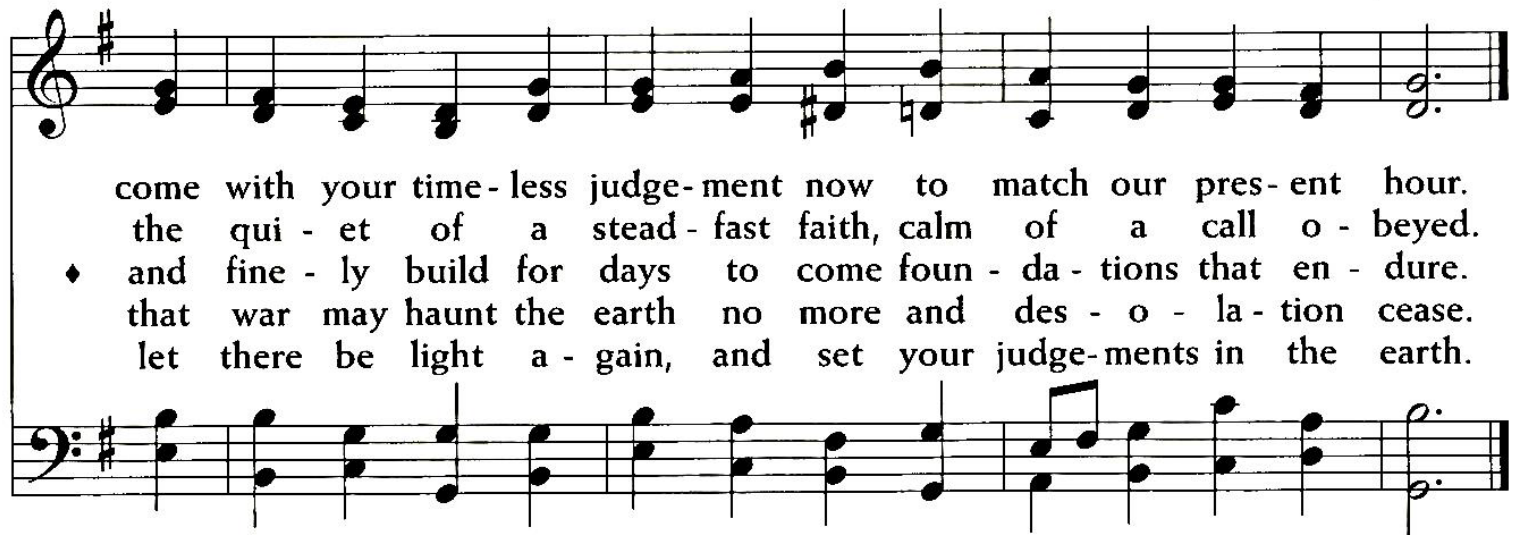
F C A Dm G C F B \flat F C F

from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.
 dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
 born to reign in us for ev - er; now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.





1 O day of God, draw nigh in beau - ty and in power,
 2 Bring to our trou - bled minds, un - cer - tain and a - fraid,
 ♦ 3 Bring jus - tice to our land, that all may dwell se - cure,
 4 Bring to our world of strife your sov - ereign word of peace,
 5 O day of God, draw nigh as at cre - a - tion's birth;

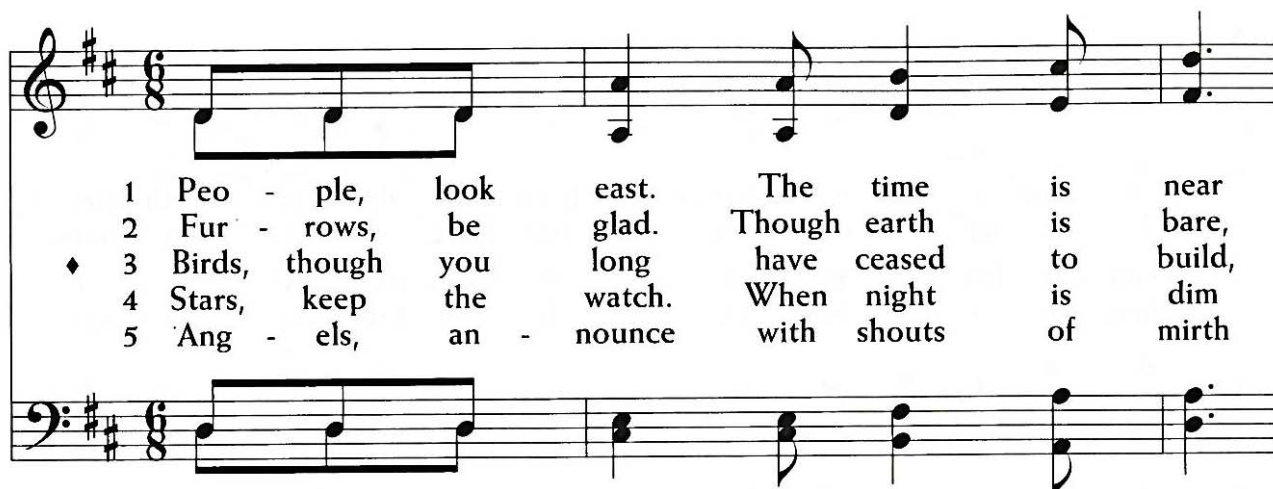


come with your time - less judge - ment now to match our pres - ent hour.
 the qui - et of a stead - fast faith, calm of a call o - beyed.
 ♦ and fine - ly build for days to come foun - da - tions that en - dure.
 that war may haunt the earth no more and des - o - la - tion cease.
 let there be light a - gain, and set your judge - ments in the earth.

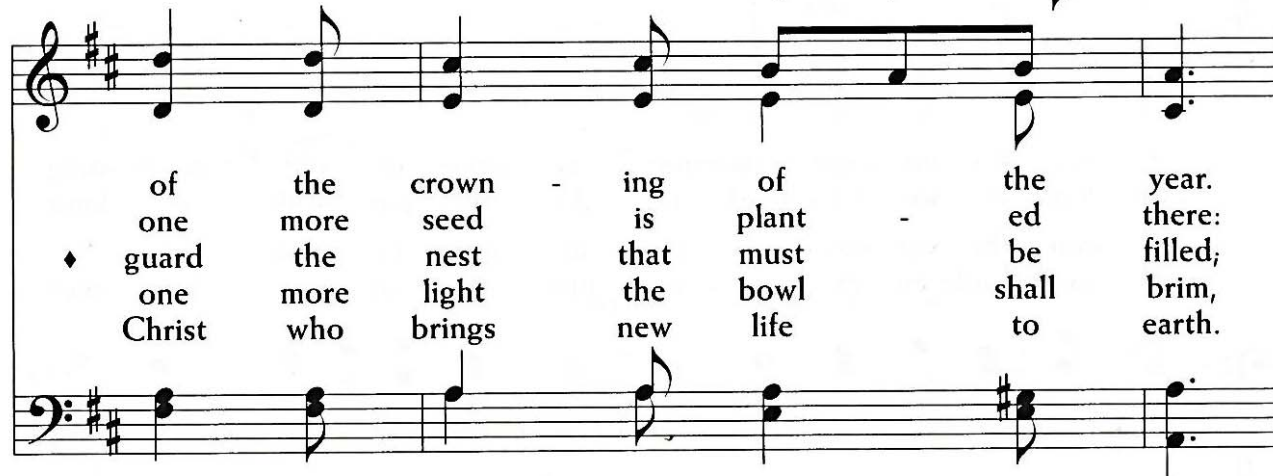


*CLOSING HYMN: "People Look East"

V9



1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near
 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
 ♦ 3 Birds, though you long have ceased to build,
 4 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim
 5 Ang - els, an - nounce with shouts of mirth



of the crown - ing of the year.
 ♦ one more seed is plant - ed there:
 guard the nest that must be filled;
 one more light the bowl shall brim,
 Christ who brings the new life to earth.



Make your house fair as you are a - ble,
 give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,
 ♦ ev - en the hour when wings are fro - zen
 shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,
 Set ev - ery peak and val - ley hum - ming



trim the hearth and set the ta - ble.
 ♦ that the in course the flour - ish.
 God for fledg - ing time has cho - sen.
 bright as the sun and moon to - geth - er.
 with the word, the Lord is com - ing.

Peo - ple, look east and sing to - day:



Peo - ple, look east:

Love the guest is on the way.
 Love the rose is on the way.
 Love the bird is on the way.
 Love the star is on the way.
 Love the Lord is on the way.

Peo - ple, look east:





With gratitude, we share the names of those who have pledged to support the annual budget of 2023:

Elizabeth Anderson

Joyce Bellonio

Jim & Joan Bennett

Cheryl Bogert

Priscilla Bradford

Elaine Burr

Sandy Carter

Susan Compton

Kim & Tom Coughlin

George & Flo Coulston

Paula Diehl

Jim & Leslie Dockendorff

Ken & Ann Dubar

Doris Ferner

Carl & Lillian Flodquist

Rich & Jody Gallagher

Betsy Gumbart

Nancy Gutowski

Kathy Harple

Eleanor Harple

Susan Beth Higgins

Carla & Michael Hill

Bernie & Elfie Hummel

Robbie & Bruno Juliano

Linda Lacobelli

Suzanne & Nigel Light

Nancy & Ken Mahoney

Ted & Joyce Manzo

John & Rhonda Masnato

Barbara & Richard Massey

Kathi & Robert Mickolyzck

Lorraine Morehouse

Scott Morrow & Carol Amico

Lynne & Rob Nielsen

William Olmstead

Stephen & Mabel Peterson

Dot Pierce

Lynn Reardon

Jane Romans

Bob & Barbara Scheidecker

Adam & Julie Schweickert

Anthony & Cheryl Solecki

Peter & Victoria Struk

John & Sue Tibor

Doris Vigliotto

Cathy Welch as of 11/16/2022